OKLAHOMA

CURRENT FARM ECONOMICS

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Big and Little Farms in Oklahoma.

See Page 23.

ON THE COVER

Frank Davies, member of the agronomy staff, holds a stalk of the new Redlan kafir developed by John Sieglinger, who directs all sorghum research in Oklahoma under a cooperative agreement between the Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station and the U.S.D.A. Redlan, a combine variety, averages about 42 inches in height. Behind Davies is a row of Sharon kafir, a non-combine variety. Advantages of Redlan are: Convenient height for combining, fair resistance to lodging from insect and disease damage, dark-red grain that resists weathering, good feeding quality, and safe storage.

Current Farm Economics

OKLAHOMA

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L. A. PARCHER, Editor | PETER NELSON, Dept Head

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DIVISION OF AGRICULTURE

Oklahoma A. and M. College, Stillwater

Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station
W. L. Blizzard, Director
Louis E. Hawkins, Vice Director

Oklahoma Agricultural Extension Service
County Agent Work:
Shawnee Brown, Director

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The Agricultural Situation

GENERAL

Demand and Price

Relative stability of the overall price structure remains the keynote for the 1949 outlook. The largest difference between actual conditions in 1948 and prospects for 1949 is the change from mere order-taking to selling. This shift from a seller's to a buyer's market has been a gradual industry by industry change in which quality and somewhat lower prices have been stressed.

During 1948, several industries, such as textiles, leather goods, radios, and electric irons, experienced a somewhat limited demand, consequently they had to *sell* their merchandise on the basis of quality and advertising. The results from the furniture show at Chicago early in January indicated that this industry is changing from the seller's to the buyer's market. Buyers were after good quality, moderately priced furniture rather than the best quality, higher priced furniture.

This trend is not restricted to non-durable goods. Recently the Ford Motor Company announced that the production of Lincoln and Mercury automobiles would be curtailed until spring partially because of the relatively short steel supply. While regulation W (restrictions on consumer credit) and the normal winter seasonal declines have exerted influences, the significance of this action apparently is that a weakness exists in the demand for the higher priced lines. This weakness is due in part to a smaller and declining backlog of demand.

The lag in Christmas retail sales volume in December indicated that consumers were assuming their prewar buying habits. Confident that stocks would not be depleted just after Thanksgiving, shoppers took plenty of time to find the best quality for a particular price range. After a few pre-Christmas sales, shoppers may have decided to take advantage of bargains and adopt a "wait and see" policy. Although holiday sales volume was not as high as anticipated by some business concerns, it compared favorably with 1947. Two lessons to learn from this past season are: First, successful retailers will have to be hustlers in today's market, and second, the change to seasonal buying habits probably will encompass most consumer items during 1949.

In general, the economy is basically sound. Industrial production is high with almost 100 percent of capacity steel production. Automobile production is large and is expected to increase approximately 10 percent in 1949, especially in the lower priced lines. Demand for electrical power and petroleum products is very strong. Unemployment, though increasing, is relatively small. These factors indicate continuing high consumer incomes in 1949.

The theme for most business concerns apparently centers on quality, advertising, increased efficiency, and lower costs. Retailers are maintaining comparatively large inventories which are approximately at prewar ratios. With no sudden breaks in prices, these inventories may be about in line but caution should be exercised.

With the leveling out of prices of non-agricultural products, large farm production has caused prices of farm products, including food prices, to decline. Prices received by United States farmers in December were 268 percent of the 1909-14 base, a decline of 1 percent from the previous month and 11 percent from December a year earlier.*

The index of prices paid by farmers in December was 247 percent of the same base period and was a slight increase over December a year earlier. This contrasting trend has tended to bring agricultural prices and non-agricultural prices somewhat more in line when compared to the common base period of 1909-14. The parity ratio of prices received to prices paid was 109 in December compared with 123 in December 1947 and 133, the record high, in October 1946.

The index of prices received by Oklahoma farmers was 269 percent of the base as compared with 314 percent in December 1947. The overall change was greatest for total crops with a decrease of 21 percent compared with an increase of 1 percent for total livestock and livestock products. By commodity groups, grains suffered the greatest decline of 29 percent followed by declines in cotton and cottonseed of 16 percent, miscellaneous crops 14 percent, and dairy products 10 percent.

The change of December prices from November prices may give a better indication of the recent price trends. The index of prices of total crops was down about 4 percent while the index of prices of livestock and livestock products was down approximately 2 percent. By commodity groups, the following price changes may be signifi-

* Agricultural Prices, December 1948, p. 1.

cant: Cotton prices were lower, bringing the index for cotton and cottonseed down 6 percent; grain price movements were mixed with a net increase of 1 percent; all meat animal prices were down, except sheep, with a decrease of 5 percent; increased wholesale milk and butterfat prices offset a slight decline in butter prices to net a 3 percent increase for dairy products; and prices of chickens and eggs moved up 4 percent.

Seasonal prices movements represent a part of these declines and, for particular commodities, the price declines may be larger during the coming months. For example, good to choice slaughter beef steers tend to come on the market in large numbers beginning the latter part of January and perhaps lasting into March, thus prices of these animals may drop considerably during February and March because of the large seasonal marketings.

INCOME

The total physical volume of agricultural production was 2 points larger than 1947 and established a new all-time high of 138 percent of the 1935-39 base.* Cash receipts from that part of the volume marketed were estimated at 30.8 billion dollars compared with 1947 receipts of 30.2 billion. Crop production was 49 percent greater than the base while livestock and livestock products were only 31 percent greater. Compared with 1947, crop production increased 10 percent while livestock and livestock products production decreased 4 percent.

Estimates for January indicate that farmers may receive around 2.4 billion dollars from marketings, a 12 percent decline from December, and a 4 percent decline from January a year earlier.** Receipts from livestock and livestock products will approximate 1.3 billion dollars while receipts from crops will be around 1.1 billion dollars. Compared with January 1947, crop marketings have increased 8 percent while livestock marketings have decreased 3 percent. Based on relatively stable farm costs and decreasing commodity prices, net farm income in January will not be as high as a year earlier.—*Leo V. Blakley.*

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* *The Farm Income Situation*, December 1948, p. 7.

** *Ibid*, p. 2.

CROPS

Cotton

Indications are that American cotton may develop surplus difficulties at current cotton prices. Domestic cotton prices will not likely remain at recent levels unless supported by government stockpiling loans or other means. The ratio of cotton prices to the prices of alternative products may become more favorable to cotton, however, if exports rise in line with world demand.

The domestic carryover from this season will probably be larger than 1947 or 1948, about equal to 1946, but less than the other years since 1928. Farmers are expected to plant a considerably larger acreage of cotton in 1949 unless the 1949 cotton acreage will be excluded in calculation of future allotments. There is current discussion (especially in recent sessions of the Farm Bureau and among some Congressmen) of excluding the 1949 cotton acreage in determining allotments for use in any future cotton acreage control measures. If 1949 acreages are excluded in calculation of allotments, the incentive to plant cotton in 1949 for increasing allotments would be removed and decrease the possibility of a carryover that may be defined as excessive at the end of the next season. However, action regarding the 1949 cotton acreage allotments remains to be taken. Acreage control is not now certain; stockpiling of cotton or something else may postpone or prevent it.

Exports and domestic consumption have been running below expectations since the beginning of the present season (August 1). Exports up to the first of the year had totaled only about 1,200,000 bales and almost half of the season was gone. Exports for the year may not exceed 3.5 million bales, even though the Economic Cooperation Administration reported that Marshall Plan countries would get within 10 percent of the 4½ million bales they asked for and some market observers insist that they had expected the season to start slowly and that the expected 4 million bales in exports will yet be reached.

The decline in mill margins (the spread between the price of a pound of raw cotton and the price of its cloth equivalent) indicates that the profit in manufacturing cotton textiles has decreased. Mill margins narrowed to 33.9 cents in December. The record high was 64.7 cents in December of 1947. This decline was due to a fall of 35 percent, on the average, in cotton textiles prices since the beginning of the year, while the price of raw cotton declined only

about 10 percent. Factors contributing to the price decline in cotton textiles were:

(1) There was a record level of mill production during 1947 and the first half of 1948.
(2) The distribution channels have been filled since early in the year of 1948.
(3) Demand for many cotton goods apparently decreased.

The 1949 crop is the last in which the present law requires prices to be supported at 90 percent of parity. The present legislation provides for price supports of from 60 to 90 percent of parity starting in 1950. There is a great deal of agitation at present, especially from the South, for revision of the laws so as to require higher supports. However, the existing law has some strong supporters and stockpiling offers an alternative program. Although there was about a 4.2 million bale increase in world production in 1948-1949 compared to 1947-1948, this only raises world production to about prewar levels. Over 3 million bales of this increase came from the United States, where an unusually high yield per acre was produced and a crop of 14.9 million bales was harvested. This foreign production was still only about 81 percent of the latest prewar 5-year average. World consumption last year was almost equal to prewar levels, but foreign consumption was still 15 percent below prewar levels. Although United States consumption may fall off, the slack should be taken up by increases in foreign consumption (provided the difficulties of foreign exchange shortages can be overcome). In the major surplus cotton producing countries only Egypt and the United States are expected to have carryovers above the minimum needed for working stocks at the end of the 1948-1949 season.

According to one analysis: "Assuming that mill operations in foreign countries in 1948-1949 will be equal to, or slightly above the 1947-1948 level and adequate supplies of cotton are available under the E. C. A. program or otherwise, world exports should increase this year at least two million bales. With the old crop surpluses in production, countries abroad practically exhausted and production still nearly 20 percent below the prewar level, most of the increase must come from the United States if mill consumption abroad is to be maintained at the level anticipated for 1948-1949 and possibly another year."[1]—*R. B. Hughes, Jr. and J. D. Campbell.*

[1] The Cotton Gin and Oil Mill Press, January 8, 1949, p. 23.

PEANUTS

Peanuts are one of the first of the important crops grown in Oklahoma to face postwar adjustments in production.

The increased demand for food and oil during the war resulted in an increase in peanut acreage and an expansion of the peanut growing area. In the ten-year period 1937-46, the Oklahoma peanut acreage averaged 127,000 acres. In 1947 the acreage had increased to 325,000 acres. A large increase also took place in the national acreage.

To bring peanut production in line with postwar demand, peanut growers voted to adjust peanut acreage and to put marketing quotas in effect for the years 1948, 1949, and 1950. By proclamations of the Secretary of Agriculture, marketing quotas were not put into effect in 1948 but were declared effective for 1949.

The essentials of the 1949 program are:

Marketing Quotas and Acreage Allotments.—1. In a referendum held December 9, 1947, peanut growers, by an 87 percent favorable vote, approved marketing quotas and acreage allotments for 1948, 1949, and 1950. Because of a world shortage of food, fats, and oils, the Secretary of Agriculture did not put the marketing quota for 1948 into effect.

2. On November 30, 1948, the Secretary of Agriculture proclaimed marketing quotas and acreage allotments for the 1949 crop of peanuts.

3. The national acreage allotment for 1949 is 2,611,367 acres. 3,340,000 acres were harvested in 1948.

4. The national acreage allotment is apportioned among peanut-growing States, and the allotment in each State is apportioned among peanut-growing farms. Oklahoma's allotment is 183,733 acres. Farm allotments are based upon the peanut acreages picked and threshed during the years 1946-48, inclusive, and on the tillable acreage available for the production of peanuts.

5. Marketing quotas do not affect the farmer who grows less than one acre of peanuts.

Price Supports.—1. Each farmer who harvests within his acreage allotment is eligible for price support on his 1949-crop peanuts at 90 percent of parity.

2. The basic support prices for the 1949 crop and the effective program dates will be announced about August 1, 1949.

3. The farmer who harvests more than his acreage allotment will be subject to a penalty equal to 45 percent of parity on excess peanuts marketed, and will receive no support on his quota peanuts marketed.

4. All peanuts that are picked or threshed are counted in determining acreage allotments and in establishing compliance with the 1949 program.

Full information on marketing quotas, acreage allotments, and price-support provisions may be obtained at the County Agricultural Conservation Association Office.—*James R. Enix.*

VEGETABLES

Demand for fresh and processed vegetables is expected to be about the same as the demand in 1948, and prices received by farmers should not be far different. Costs of production will probably be higher this season, therefore, the net income of vegetable growers may be somewhat lower than in 1948.

United States Department of Agriculture **Production Guides** suggest a continuation of the high fresh vegetable production established during the past several years. Suggested production changes over 1948 are as follows on some vegetables: A 7 percent increase in snap bean acreage, a 5 percent increase in lima beans, sweet corn, and cucumbers, a 4 percent increase in watermelons and beets, a 2 percent increase in tomatoes, and no change in cabbage, carrots, green beans and spinach. Acreage reductions of 4 to 6 percent are suggested for cantaloupes, lettuce and onions.

Processors of canned and frozen vegetables probably will try to pack about as large a total tonnage as in 1948. Stocks on hand are lower than a year earlier.—*James R. Enix.*

WHEAT

Prospects are for a wheat crop of large size again this year. Wheat was seeded on an unprecedented acreage in the United States, exceeding the 77.7 million acres of 1948 and perhaps even the 1937 figure of 80.8 million acres. This expansion is greatly influenced by the relative price prospects for wheat in the coming season as compared with alternative prospects. In addition to a

probable relatively strong demand for wheat are two very important factors in governmental policy: (1) Wheat prices will be pegged at 90 percent of parity during the year; and (2) there will be no marketing quotas. It is entirely possible, of course, that supplies will be built up somewhat during the coming year if a big share of the wheat goes into the loan at a price somewhat in excess of that generally existing on markets. But surpluses are not likely to reach burdensome size this year, although there has already been some increase.

The use of wheat in the United States as well as exports during the current crop year will be about the same as pictured in the December 1948 issue of CURRENT FARM ECONOMICS. At that time, it was expected that the requirements would be: Food, 500 million bushels; seed, 93 million bushels; and feed, 110 million bushels. It appears that exports will be somewhere in the range of 450 to 500 million bushels.

Internationally, the price picture looks relatively favorable for the coming year. It is becoming more evident, however, that foreign nations will better be able to take care of their needs in the not too distant future. Although still below prewar levels, wheat production in Europe increased in 1948 over 1947; and if growing conditions continue favorable, it may be expected to increase further this coming year. Larger amounts were expected to be seeded in Russia as well as in the United Kingdom. The picture is, then, that nations which have not been able to take care of their needs to the extent that they were able to prior to the war, are continuing to approach their prewar status.

The importance of exports in the United States' wheat market is indicated in the fact that in 1947-1948 exports of wheat from this country accounted for approximately one-half of the total world trade in bread grains. In addition, this amount was the greatest export by either the United States or any other country in recorded history.* The expectation that this situation will not continue is in part responsible for the attention being given to a proposed international wheat agreement. Meetings started the last part of January with representatives from 48 nations—including five major exporting countries and most of the wheat importing countries.

* *The Wheat Situation.* September-November, 1948, Bureau of Agriculture Economics, United States Department of Agriculture, p. 4.

In Oklahoma, the wheat picture is favorable. Acreage is at a very high level, and moisture conditions are very good. The price situation within the state will be in general agreement with that existing nationally, and consequently cannot be expected to drop below the level of 90 percent of parity.—*Adlowe L. Larson.*

FEED

Supplies of feed have not changed noticeably since last reported here. However, unusual weather conditions during January have required much heavier feeding than normal. Three snow, sleet and ice storms starting January 9 and continuing, one after the other, throughout the rest of the month have made almost continuous feeding necessary. While supplies of grain feeds, protein supplements and hay still appear adequate in the overall, this may be of slight satisfaction to those faced with a short local supply and movement of needed feed made difficult by snow and ice.

The amounts of grain and hay reported on farms January 1 for the United States and Oklahoma compared with the supply a year earlier and for the period 1938-1947 indicate that there is an abundance of feed for all if it can be distributed as needed (Table I). Note that the combined tonnage of corn, oats and barley for the United States this January is 57 percent above a year earlier and 26 percent above the 10 year average. This means much larger supplies per animal as livestock numbers this year are estimated to be materially below 1948 levels.

Supplies of all feed concentrates in the United States October 1, 1948 were estimated at 1.07 tons per animal unit. This compares

TABLE I.—Grain and Hay Stocks on Farms, January 1, 1949.[1]

	Wheat 1000 bu.	Corn 1000 bu.	Oats 1000 bu.	Corn, Oats & Barley 1000 tons	Barley 1000 bu.	Hay 1000 tons
United States						
1938-47 Av.	334,202	1,944,272	774,472	71,197	181,767	68,017
1948	428,666	1,506,283	733,303	57,151	135,080	69,777
1949	381,667	2,519,569	927,488	89,636	177,021	67,468
Oklahoma						
1938-47 Av.	13,183	14,981	14,415	745	3,938	935
1948	16,757	11,209	18,635	639	1,123	1,000
1949	10,886	15,976	7,972	596	870	1,284

[1] Barley figures are for the preceding December 1.

favorably with the tight situation of a year earlier when the supply was .87 tons per animal unit. Supplies averaged .94 tons in 1944-1946 and .89 tons in the 1937-1941 period.

Supplies of corn, oats and barley in Oklahoma on January 1 were lower than either January 1, 1948 or for the average of the 1938-1947 period, but with reduced livestock numbers the ratio is still thought to be quite favorable.

The favorable hay situation in Oklahoma should permit heavier than normal feeding for an extended period, but if snow and ice continue local shortages are sure to develop.

Winter pastures made little progress during December and have been covered during most of January. Moderate weather in February could produce some pasture, but at present this appears highly speculative. Reporters indicated conditions of ranges to be normal January 1, 1949. Cattle were reported to have been in the same condition January 1 a month earlier but in slightly lower condition than on January 1, 1948.—*E. A Tucker.*

LIVESTOCK AND LIVESTOCK PRODUCTS

Beef Cattle

Meat production under Federal inspection approximating 788 million pounds reached its highest output of 1948 during the first two weeks of December. Meat output frequently is highest during the first half of December. Cattle slaughter in December was 10 percent below the number for 1947; however, cattle slaughter in previous weeks had been 15 to 25 percent below a year earlier. Hog slaughter had been nearly as large as a year earlier with the exception of a 10 percent drop in early December.

The Bureau of Agricultural Economics reports that meat consumption per person during the last quarter of 1948 was approximately 5 percent below the 1947 level. Consumption, it is estimated, held up despite a 6 to 8 percent lower output, primarily because of reduced storage which on December 1 was 8 percent lower than a year earlier. Larger meat imports also helped hold up the level of consumption.

Imports of feeder and slaughter cattle from Canada totaled approximately 300,000 head for 1948. Estimates also show that imports of beef and veal from Canada were close to 20 million pounds

monthly. This, however, is equivalent to only one percent of United States monthly production. Despite the relative unimportance of Canadian imports as compared to United States production; the export market of cattle and meat is very important to the Canadians. Canada lifted its restrictions on the export of cattle and dressed beef on August 16, 1948. Since that date Canadian cattle exports equaled one-fourth of the annual marketings of Canadian cattle.

The United States still prohibits imports of cattle and meat from Mexico because of foot and mouth disease. In terms of potential numbers, however, Mexico would be of greater significance on the supply side. In 1946, the year in which foot and mouth disease was discovered in Mexico, United States imports of Mexican cattle totaled around 438,000 head.

The probability of an increase in the supply of stockers and feeders from a lifting of the Mexican embargo is not anticipated at this writing; however, the influence of such a move on the supply of stockers and feeders would be of significance should it develop.

On January 1 of this year 4,548,000 head of cattle were on feed. This was 19 percent above a year ago and was the largest on record, according to a report of the Bureau of Agricultural Economics.

Shipments of stocker and feeder cattle into the 11 Corn Belt states during November and December increased sharply over the same months in 1947. Inshipments for the eleven Corn Belt states for the period July-December equaled 2,441,000 head.

The number of cattle and calves in Oklahoma being finished for market is 40 percent above the 50,000 head of a year ago. The Oklahoma total of 70,000 head equals about 2 percent of the U. S. total on feed. The number reported does not include small operations incidental to dairy and general farming nor cattle being winter fed which will later be marketed as grass fat in late summer.

Indications are that the gradually rising demand for meat in the last two years has leveled off from last summer's high. During the fall of 1948, per capita consumption increased at not quite an average seasonal rate. Seasonally adjusted consumption per capita in the last half of 1948 probably was lower than for any quarter in the last two years. Since incomes of consumers have been rising steadily, it appears that a smaller percentage of incomes was spent for meat toward the end of 1948.

Despite these demand changes, it is not yet evident that they represent general trends. Even though an eventual return to something closer to prewar relationships is expected, considered estimates show that a somewhat higher expenditure for meats may be expected in view of the increase since prewar in real incomes, including those in the lower income bracket.

Increased supplies of beef of the higher grades, as compared to a year ago, are expected in the spring and early summer with increased grain feeding of cattle. For the immediate future with a decline in total meat production, prices may strengthen and a seasonal price rise may occur. On the average, prices of choice and good grades of beef decline seasonally between mid-December and mid-March; however, common grades of steers usually increase in price.—*Robert L. Tontz.*

DAIRY

Dairy markets were irregular during the first 15 days of 1949 in sympathy with other market fluctuations. Prices moved higher on butter, but somewhat lower for large type cheese, fluid milk, dry milk solids, and some brands of evaporated milk. Milk production has continued at a relatively high rate.

Butter production for the first week of January was 6 percent larger than for the same period last year but 10 percent smaller than the ten-year average. Cold storage holdings on January 1 were 33.5 million pounds compared to 23.6 million pounds last year, and 64 million for the five-year average. December 1948 withdrawals from storage were rather heavy. December 1948 prices for 90 score butter at Chicago was 64.5 cents per pound compared to 83.8 cents per pound for December 1947. The price at Chicago was 63½ cents on January 21.

There was a rather conservative policy in the cheese market during the first half of January. Buyers were inclined to restrict purchases to immediate demands. Prices had a tendency to sag with particular pressure on heavy stock. Cold storage holdings of American cheese on January 1 were 2½ million pounds lower than a year earlier but 3 million pounds above the five-year average. Prices of twin cheese on December 1948 averaged 37.8 cents per pound at Chicago. This market slipped to 36 cents per pound by January 14, and on January 21 was 33 cents with trading at practically a stand still.

Evaporated milk in the case was steady in New York. Domestic demand improved and export demand remained good. Advertised brands were moving at $6.20 per case, others $5.65 to $5.95 per case. Condensed case market steady, demand good, supplies adequate.

Total production of manufactured products during the next few months is expected to be as large as last year and will increase as the season progresses. Total milk equivalent of all storage stocks were about one billion pounds larger on January 1, 1949, than for one year earlier. This is about an equivalent to 3 percent of the estimated 1949 production.

For the next few months total employment is expected to be about 60 million persons. Business activity, on which the demand for dairy products depends, has been at very high levels the past few weeks. Therefore, a large consumer demand for dairy products is expected. Butter prices will be heavily influenced by the price and supply of margarine.

Dairy cow numbers are down, but with lower beef prices, there will be a tendency for more dairy heifers to stay on the farm. This is a method of replacement which is certain to come if beef lowers in price.—*A. W. Jacob.*

Hogs

The fall pig crop is estimated to be 33,995,000 head. This is 8 percent larger than the 1947 fall pig crop and about the same as the 1937-46 average. The 6.58 pigs saved per litter is the largest on record. The number of sows farrowing in the 1948 fall season was 5,169,000 head. This was 5 percent larger than breeding intentions indicated in the June Pig Crop Report. The increased production resulted primarily from the large corn crop, favorable hog-corn ratio, and generally good weather at farrowing time.

The combined spring and fall pig crop for 1948 is estimated at 85,281,000 head, an increase of about 1 percent over the 1947 crop.

Spring breeding intentions as reported by farmers indicate a 14 percent increase above last year in the number of sows to farrow in the spring of 1949. The indicated number of sows is 9,086,000 head; this would be 7 percent above the ten-year average,

and the largest number of spring farrowings since 1944. The 1949 spring pig crop will be about 56.5 million head if present breeding intentions materialize and the number of pigs saved per litter compares with the ten-year average. This would be slightly less than the sixty million goal suggested by the Department of Agriculture.

The number of hogs over six months old on farms December 1 was about 2 percent smaller than a year earlier. The movement of the 1948 spring pigs to market before January 1 has been unusually heavy considering the large corn crop and the favorable relationship of hog and corn prices. This movement is unusual since such a situation usually occurs when the corn crop has been below average.

The fall pig crop in Oklahoma was estimated at 640,000 head, which was a 14 percent increase over the 1947 fall pig crop. Breeding intentions indicate that 101,000 sows will be bred for spring farrowing in the state.—*Howard S. Whitney.*

POULTRY

The demand for poultry and eggs is continuing strong as is evident from a comparison of poultry and egg prices with hogs and dairy products which weakened during November and December.

Egg prices have been favorable during the last quarter and indications are that they will continue to be for the first quarter of 1949. Although egg prices during the last quarter of 1948 were slightly below 1947, the average for the year in Oklahoma of 41.6 cents a dozen set a new record high for any one year. Prices for poultry averaged higher for the past year and set an all time high of 28 cents per pound in December (Tables II and III).

Although prices for eggs and poultry established new records, price relationships were disadvantageous to producers.

Egg production in 1948 was larger than 1947 despite the fact that poultry numbers declined. Increased feeding plus improved management practices were effective. However, poultrymen contribute most of the increased production to a general improvement in the type of layers on farms. If this be true, poultrymen have done much to strengthen the position of this enterprise on farms. Concurrently, it is evident that the average farm flock could be made more efficient in production when compared with the rate of production of superior flocks.

Turkeys.—According to the January 21, 1949 release of the Crop Reporting Board at Oklahoma City, turkey producers are planning to increase production from 31,653,000 in 1948 to 39,460,000 in 1949 which is an increase of 25 percent. In every state with the exception of Nevada, which is the lowest, turkey producers reported intention to expand production. The greatest increase was indicated by producers in the West North Central region composed of Minnesota, Iowa, Missouri, North and South Dakota, Nebraska and Kansas. These states reported an average increase of 36 percent. This region has ranked second in production to the Western states the last few years. These two areas have been producing more than 50 percent of the turkeys since the decline of turkey production in the South Central states of Kentucky, Tennessee, Alabama, Mississippi, Arkansas, Louisiana, Oklahoma and Texas.

Turkey producers in Oklahoma estimated their production in 1949 to be 474,000 which is an increase of 30 percent above the 1948 production of 365,000 turkeys. The 1949 intentions are far below the five-year average for 1941-1945 of 895,000. The increase was anticipated but exceeds by far the 35.1 million goal of the Department of Agriculture which would have provided consumers with approximately 4 pounds of turkey per person compared with an estimated 1949 per capita consumption of 3.4 pounds.—*K. C. Davis.*

TABLE II.—Egg Prices Received by Oklahoma Farmers, January 1942 to January 1949.
(Cents per dozen)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1942	30.2	24.8	25.0	24.4	25.7	27.0	27.0	27.5	29.4	31.4	33.2	34.7	28.4
1943	35.4	33.3	32.9	32.4	32.9	33.3	32.6	32.6	34.3	37.5	39.0	39.6	34.6
1944	32.4	31.6	29.7	26.0	26.7	27.0	28.0	28.5	29.9	32.6	38.6	41.1	31.0
1945	37.5	31.2	30.7	30.8	30.5	31.1	32.3	33.5	30.0	35.0	44.7	45.5	34.4
1946	37.5	29.4	30.1	29.7	30.0	30.0	32.0	32.0	40.0	44.0	41.0	43.0	34.9
1947	38.1	35.1	36.0	37.5	36.5	36.7	38.3	37.4	43.6	47.8	47.7	57.6	41.0
1948	44.3	39.7	38.3	38.3	35.4	36.4	37.0	38.0	41.7	46.0	52.0	53.0	41.6
1949	43.0												

SOURCE: "Prices Received by Farmers," Mid-Monthly Release, Agricultural Statistics Division, B.A.E., U.S.D.A., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

TABLE III.—Chicken Prices Received by Oklahoma Farmers, January 1942 to January 1949.
(Cents per pound)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1942	14.8	15.3	15.8	16.1	16.8	16.8	15.9	16.7	17.9	17.8	17.2	17.7	16.6
1943	19.0	19.8	20.7	22.1	22.1	22.6	22.3	21.7	22.0	22.3	22.5	21.9	21.6
1944	21.9	22.2	22.2	21.4	21.5	21.8	21.8	21.4	22.0	21.4	21.4	22.1	21.8
1945	21.8	22.1	22.5	23.2	24.0	24.7	24.9	25.8	22.8	21.8	20.9	21.4	23.0
1946	21.6	21.6	21.7	22.4	23.5	23.4	25.5	23.4	24.0	27.0	21.9	22.4	23.2
1947	22.4	21.2	23.0	23.8	23.5	22.2	22.0	22.0	22.5	23.4	22.1	21.6	22.5
1948	22.2	22.4	23.0	24.0	24.0	26.0	28.2	25.7	27.0	26.4	25.8	28.0	25.2
1949	27.0												

SOURCE: "Prices Received by Farmers," Mid-Monthly Release, Agricultural Statistics Division, B.A.E., U.S.D.A., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

TABLE IV.—Poultry Ration Cost Per 100 Pounds, to Oklahoma Farmers, January 1942 to January 1949.

(Dollars)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1942	2.01	2.07	2.13	2.12	2.11	2.11	2.10	2.17	2.16	2.14	2.16	2.20	2.12
1943	2.37	2.39	2.45	2.53	2.60	2.63	2.71	2.77	2.75	2.77	2.82	2.86	2.64
1944	2.91	2.92	2.92	2.95	2.96	2.91	2.88	2.87	2.78	2.71	2.71	2.69	2.85
1945	2.72	2.73	2.76	2.79	2.78	2.80	2.84	2.86	2.85	2.89	2.91	2.94	2.82
1946	2.96	3.02	3.10	3.11	3.35	3.49	3.84	3.81	3.63	3.58	3.63	3.47	3.42
1947	3.39	3.42	3.77	3.85	3.85	3.81	3.94	4.08	4.35	4.42	4.53	4.76	4.01
1948	4.92	4.36	4.47	4.56	4.48	4.34	4.17	3.77	3.51	3.43	3.45	3.53	4.08
1949	3.52												

*TABLE V.—Egg-Feed Price Ratios, Oklahoma.**

(Pounds of Poultry ration** equal in value to one dozen eggs)

Year	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	April	May	June	July	Aug.	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Av.
1942	15.0	12.0	11.7	11.5	12.2	12.8	12.9	12.7	13.6	14.7	15.4	15.8	12.9
1943	14.9	13.9	13.4	12.8	12.7	12.7	12.0	11.8	12.5	13.5	13.8	13.8	13.2
1944	11.1	10.8	10.2	8.8	9.0	9.3	9.7	9.9	10.8	12.0	14.2	15.3	10.9
1945	13.8	11.4	11.1	11.0	11.0	11.1	11.4	11.7	10.5	12.1	15.4	15.5	12.2
1946	12.7	9.7	9.7	9.5	9.0	8.6	8.3	8.4	11.0	12.3	11.3	12.4	10.2
1947	11.2	10.3	9.5	9.7	9.5	9.6	9.7	9.2	10.0	10.8	10.5	12.1	10.2
1948	9.0	9.1	8.6	8.4	7.9	8.4	8.9	10.1	11.9	13.4	15.1	15.0	10.0
1949	12.2												

SOURCE: "Prices Received by Farmers," Mid-Monthly Release, Agricultural Statistics Division, B.A.E., U.S.D.A., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma.

* These ratios are not indicative of and must never be interpreted as "cost of production." They include only cost of feed, and all other costs of production are in addition.

** Poultry feed ration: percentages of specfied feeds include commercial mash, 32.7 percent; home mixed mash, 11.2; commercial scratch, 4.0; corn, 14.0; wheat, 16.3; oats, 9.9; barley, 1.3; sorghum grain, 10.6 percent. Individual producers' ration cost may be more or less than the above stated costs as estimated by the Bureau of Agricultural Economics. In case poultry-ration cost and egg prices for producers in any community differ from those shown in Table *III* and Table *I*, respectively, the actual ratios can be calculated by dividing egg prices per dozen by actual feed cost per pound.

SHEEP, LAMBS AND WOOL

Sheep and Lambs.—The number of sheep and lambs on feed in the United States on January 1, 1949, was 15 percent less than last year—4,185 thousand for 1949 compared with 4,851 thousand a year ago. With minor exceptions the decline in the number of sheep and lambs on feed was general throughout the United States.*

Weather in the great plains area during the fall and early winter months was unfavorable for the development of wheat pasture, with the exception of a few local areas in Kansas, Oklahoma, and Texas.

Storms in late November destroyed an estimated 45,000 head of sheep and lambs. The damage done by the prolonged extreme blizzard conditions of January in the Plains region probably cannot be accurately evaluated until the weather clears. However, it should be noted that the damaged area is, from the point of view of the sheep and lamb industry, a part of the western lambing states. If weather damage proves to be great, it could have considerable effect on the number of breeding ewes and this year's lamb crop. According to the United States Department of Agriculture, there were 23 million breeding ewes on farms January 1, 1948; and of that number, 17 million were located in the western states and 7 million were on farms in the native states.

Wool.—The demand for apparel wool in the world markets continued strong through December of last year and January of 1949. 64's-70's good medium fleeces were quoted at $2.00 per pound clean basis.—*Raymond B. Marshall.*

* *Cattle and Sheep and Lambs on Feed*, January 1, 1949.

A Study of Farms in Oklahoma by Size and Economic Class*

Introduction

Two recent publications of the 1945 Census of Agriculture contain social and economic data on sampled farms in Oklahoma classified by total acres per farm and by economic class. This information is important because it shows the distribution of population, production, wealth, income, and certain level of living items among various size and economic groups of farms. Since farms with 500 acres and over in Oklahoma increased in number from 6,057 to 11,832 between 1920 and 1945, and land in these farms increased from 22 to 41 percent of the total acreage in farms, the significance of large farms in the agricultural economy of the State should be studied (Table I).

Farms Classified by Size

Total acres per farm is the most common measure of farm size Table II shows the percentage distribution of specified items into various size groups of farms and the proportion of farms in each group possessing certain level of living items.

Of the 165,000 farms in the State in 1945, 25 percent contained fewer than 50 acres of land, 68 percent fell in the size group ranging from 50 to 499 acres, and 7 percent had 500 acres and over. The farm population of the State was distributed in about the same proportions as farms.

Farms with 500 acres and over, hereafter referred to as large farms, accounted for 41 percent of the total farm acreage, 30 percent of the value of all land and buildings, and 26 percent of the value of farm implements and machinery in Oklahoma.

The one-fourth of the farms in the State having fewer than 50 acres included 2 percent of all land in farms, 6 percent of the total value of land and buildings, and 4 percent of the value of implements and machinery.

Nearly one-third of the cropland harvested in the State, including 42 percent of the wheat acreage, was on large farms. On the

* Adapted from a paper read at the annual meeting of the Oklahoma Academy of Science in Tulsa, December 3, 1948.

TABLE I.—Number of Farms and Average by Size of Farms, Oklahoma, 1920 and 1945.

Acres per Farm	Number of Farms (Thousands)		Percent Change	Number of Acres (Thousands)		Percent Change
	1945	1920		1945	1920	
All farms	165	192	− 14	36,162	31,952	+ 13
Under 10 acres	15	2	+644	54	10	+428
10-259	113	162	− 30	12,619	17,565	− 28
260-499	25	22	+ 12	8,801	7,438	+ 18
500 and over	12	6	+ 95	14,688	6,939	+112

other hand, cotton, which is heavily dependent upon hand labor in the cultivating and harvesting stages, was concentrated on middlesize farms, a large proportion of which can be classed as family farms. Small farms play a very small role in the production of wheat and cotton in this State.

Large farms or ranches accounted for 46 percent of the value of all livestock and livestock products, excluding dairy products, in Oklahoma.

The distribution of gross farm income in 1944 shows that the large farms in the State produced 29 percent of the total farm income, middlesize farms 64 percent of total farm income, and small farms contribued 7 percent of the total value of farm products sold or used by households.

As expected, subsistence farming is found to be important on small units. This can be seen from the fact that on small farms 44 percent of the value of all farm products was used by farm households. At the other extreme, only 4 percent of the farm products raised on large farms was consumed by occupant households.

Practically no cash wages were paid for hired labor by operators of small farms. In 1944, the wage bill for hired labor, excluding room and board, amounted to 8 percent of the value of all farm products on middle-size farms and 12 percent on large farms.

There is a relationship between the age of farm operator and size of farm. As the ages of farmers increased, larger proportions lived on small farms. The proportion of farmers residing on middle-size farms tended to decrease as age increased. Relatively fewer farmers 55 years old and over were on large farms. Presumably, older farmers gravitate to smaller farms for security reasons.

Also, they have reached the age when most of their children have left home, and smaller farms are in keeping with the contracted needs of the family and the smaller number of family laborers.

Families on small farms move more frequently than those on large farms. Twenty-nine percent of all families with less than two years' occupancy on their present farms were on small farms. Twenty percent having 10 years or more of residence on their present farms were on small units. At the other extreme, only 3 percent of the families with less than two years' occupancy were on large farms. Eleven percent of those with 10 or more years' occupancy were on large farms.

The data in Table II show that there were fewer tractors and motor trucks per farm on small farms than on the middle-size and large farms. This distribution is to be expected as small farms do not have as much need for these items as larger farms. However, automobiles are found nearly as often on small as on larger farms.

Relatively more dwellings with running water and electricity were on small farms than on middle-size farms. With respect to other items, homes on small farms compared favorably with those on middle-size farms but not with dwellings on large farms. Because many homes on small farms are located near cities and have access to urban conveniences, they frequently are better equipped than dwellings on middle-size farms.

Farms by Economic Class

The distribution of farms into economic classes, as is shown in Table III, indicates the predominance of family farms, subsistence farms, and part-time units in Oklahoma. Nearly one-half, 49 percent, of the farms—those in Classes III and IV—can be considered as family farms. Another 44 percent of the farms, including nearly all those in Class V, VI, and VII, can be termed as subsistence and part-time farms. The remaining seven percent of farms—those in Classes I and II—may be designated properly as large-scale units.

These large farms had approximately one-third of all farm resources of the State and produced about two-fifths of all farm products sold as determined by value. The average gross income of Class I farms in 1944 was $35,400 and of Class II farms, $10,200.

The small subsistence and part-time units, consisting of 44 percent of all farms, had about one-sixth of the farm resources of the

State. They contributed 7 percent of the total value of all farm products sold in 1944. The average gross income per farm ranged from $300 in Class VII to $800 in Class VI.

TABLE II.—Selected Social and Economic Data on Farms in Oklahoma Classified by Acres Per Farm, 1945.[1]

Item	Acres Per Farm		
	Under 50	50-499	500 and over
Number of farms, in hundreds	407	1122	118
Percentage distribution:[2]			
Farms	25	68	7
Farm population	23	68	9
Farm operators by age, years:			
Under 35	18	75	7
35-54	22	70	8
55 and over	32	62	6
Families by years on farm occupied:			
Under 2	29	68	3
10 and over	20	69	11
Value of land and buildings	6	64	30
Value of implements and machinery	4	70	26
Acres in farms	2	57	41
Acres of cropland harvested, 1944	2	67	31
Acres of wheat threshed, 1944	0.2	58	42
Acres of cotton harvested, 1944	3	83	14
Value of livestock and livestock products sold exclusive dairy, 1944	4	50	46
Value of farm products sold or used, 1944	7	64	29
Value of farm products used by farm households, 1944	21	70	9
Farms reporting cash wages paid for hired labor, 1944	11	76	13
Cash wages paid to hired labor, 1944	3	60	37
Percent cash wages for hired labor was of value of all farm products, 1944	4	8	12
Percent of value of all farm products used by farm households, 1944	44	15	4
Percentage distribution of farms with:[2]			
Tractor	3	80	17
Truck	9	70	21
Automobile	21	69	10
Percent of farms in each acreage group with:			
Running water	30	13	40
Electricity	43	25	41
Telephone	24	25	52
Radio	75	79	98
Kitchen sink	32	25	52
Power-driven washing machine	35	40	66

[1] *U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1945,* Farms and Farm Characteristics By Size of Farm.

[2] Each line of percentages adds to 100.

The farms in Economic Classes III and IV, which have been designated as family farms in this study, vary widely in the degree of resources controlled. The data in Table III suggest that probably many farms in Class IV do not provide occupant families with a decent level of living and relative full employment of family labor. The average gross income per farm in Class IV was $1,900 in 1944 as compared with $4,600 per farm in Class III. Farms in Class IV were much less commercialized than those in Class III.

The high degree of mechanization on farms in Classes I, II and III is indicated by the presence of tractors on 80 percent or more of the farms, and the proportions of farms in these classes with trucks greatly exceeded those in the remaining economic classes.

The percent of farms in each economic class with specified farm and level-of-living items reflect wide variations. Automobiles were reported on 88 percent of the Class I farms, 60 percent of the Class IV farms, and 36 percent of the Class VII farms. Fifty-five percent of the farms in Class I possessed running water in the farm dwelling as compared with 10 percent of the farms in Class VI.

"Large" Farms

The Census tabulated for 1945 on specific items relating to those farms in Oklahoma that met any of these requirements: (1) at least 4000 acres of land in farm, (2) 1000 acres or more of cropland harvested and crop failure, (3) 800 head or more of cattle and calves, (4) 600 head or more of sheep and lambs, or (5) $40,000 value of farm products sold or used by farm households. A farm that met any of the requirements was classed as an extra large farm. There were 1101 of these in the State.

These very large farms, constituting 0.7 percent of all farms in the State, accounted for 14 percent of the total acreage in farms, 6 percent of all cropland harvested, and 11 percent of all cattle and sheep (Table IV). Ten percent of the value of all farm products sold in the State in 1944 came from this small group of farms.

Most of these large farms are ranches, but with 5 percent of all farm implements and machinery in the State, by value, and 11 percent of the State's farm labor costs paid by this group of farms, there is a probability that crop farming forms an important part of the operations on many of these units.

Table III.—Selected Social and Economic Data on Farms in Oklahoma Classified by Economic Class, 1945[1]

Item	Economic Class of Farms[2]						
	I	II	III	IV	V	VI	VII
Number of farms, in hundreds	14	95	305	501	184	280	268
Percentage distribution:[2]							
Farms	1	6	19	30	11	17	16
Farm population	2	7	19	31	12	16	13
Value of land and buildings	10	23	30	22	4	5	6
Value of implements and machinery	6	22	37	25	3	4	3
All acres in farms	13	19	27	25	2	8	6
Acres of cropland harvested, 1944	7	23	34	26	1	6	3
Value of farm products sold or used, 1944	12	23	33	22	3	5	2
Value of farm products sold, 1944	14	25	35	20	1	5	1
Percent of value of all farm products which was sold, 1944	98	96	91	78	43	59	45
Average value of farm products sold or traded per farm, in thousands of dollars, 1944	35.4	10.2	4.6	1.9	0.6	0.8	0.3
Percent of farms in each economic class with:							
Tractor	88	92	80	41	6	11	7
Truck	92	72	45	23	13	12	8
Automobile	88	84	74	60	65	42	36
Running water in dwelling	55	42	21	12	33	10	15
Electricity	52	53	39	21	46	15	24
Telephone	62	61	40	20	27	12	13

[1] *U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1945*, Special Report 1945 Sample Census of Agriculture. Table 29.

[2] Each line of percentages adds to 100.

(Table continued on next page.)

[8] The composition of various economic classes of farms was as follows:

Class I:

(a) Value of products $20,000 or more; value of real estate at least $15,000.
(b) Value of real estate $70,000 or more; value of products $8,000 to $19,999.

Class II:

(a) Value of products $8,000 to $19,999; value of real estate less than $70,000.
(b) Value of real estate $30,000 to $69,999; value of products $3,000 to $7,999.
(c) Value of products $20,000 and over; value of real estate $5,000 to $14,999.

Class III:

(a) Value of products $3,000 to $7,999; value of real estate less than $30,000.
(b) Value of real estate $20,000 to $29,999; value of products $1,200 to $2,999.
(c) Value of products $20,000 or more; value of real estate less than $5,000.

Class IV:

(a) Value of products $1,200 to $2,999; value of real estate less than $20,000.
(b) Value of real estate $8,000 to $19,999; value of products $500 to $1,199.

Class V:

(a) Value of products of $250 to $1,199; value real estate less than $8,000; farm operator working off the farm 100 days or more in 1944.

Class VI: Value of products $500 to $1,199; value of real estate less than $8,000; farm operator working off the farm less than 100 days in 1944.

Class VII:

All farms not included in Class I to VI, and includes:
(a) Farms with a value of products of less than $250.
(b) Farms with a value of products of $250 to $449; value of real estate less than $8,000, farm operator working less than 100 days off the farm in 1944.
(c) Farms with value of real estate $70,000 or over; value of products of less than $8,000.
(d) Farms with value of real estate $30,000 to $69,999; value of products less than $3,000.
(e) Farms with value of real estate $20,000 to $29,999; value of products less than $1,200.
(f) Farms with value of real estate $8,000 to $19,999; value of products under $500.

Factors Associated With Increase of Large Farms

The question can be raised: Why has the number of large farms in Oklahoma increased 95 percent during the past 25 years?

There is no simple answer to this question, but farm mechanization is perhaps the most important factor contributing to the increase in size of farm. Other factors which probably are associated with expansion of farm size are (1) the improvement of plants and livestock, (2) the increased ability to control insects, pests, and diseases, (3) the increase in knowledge relating to fertilizing soils, (4) the improvement in managerial and marketing techniques,[3] (5) the more rapid adoption of these advances in technology by farmers with adequate capital and above-average ability, and (6) such factors as the drouth, low prices for farm products, and alternative opportunities for employment which led population to leave farms of this State. The latter factor resulted in the consolidation of acreages into larger farms.

The importance of farm mechanization in growth of large farms can be shown by comparing the number of tractors on farms classified by total acreage. In Table V it can be seen that 37 percent of the farms in Oklahoma had tractors in 1945. Farms having tractors ranged from 2 percent of those with less than 10 acres to more than 80 percent of those with 500 acres and over.

Many farms have more than one tractor. The intensity in use of machines is reflected by the regular increase in number of tractors per 100 farms from 2 among farms having less than 10 acres to 141 among units having 1,000 acres and over. Also, the average number of tractors per farm was much higher on larger than on smaller farms.

Conclusions

The significant conclusions of this study can be summarized briefly. First, a relatively few large farms, approximately 7 or 8 percent of the total, include from 30 to 40 percent of the total farm resources and account for more than one-third of the total farm production of the State.

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[3] *Technological Trends and National Policy*, Reports of the Subcommittee on Technology to the National Resources Committee, U. S. Government Printing Office, Washington, D. C., 1937, p. 97.

Second, 44 percent of the farms in Oklahoma, with 10 to 16 percent of the total farm resources, produce one-tenth of the total gross farm income.

Third, despite broad gains made in the level of living during World War II, 83 percent of the farm families are without running

Table IV.—Selected Social and Economic Data on Designated Large Farms in Oklahoma, 1945.*

Item	Percent
Number of large farms**	(1101)
Percent of Total for all farms which was accounted for by large farms:	
Farms	0.7
All farm population	1
All acres in farms	14
Acres of cropland harvested, 1944	6
Value of land and buildings	7
Value of implements and machinery	5
Trucks	4
Tractors	3
Automobiles	2
All horses	3
All mules	3
All cattle	11
All hogs	3
All sheep	11
Value of farm products sold or used, 1944	9
Value of farm products sold, 1944	10
Cash wages paid for hired labor, 1944	11

* *U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1945*, Special Report 1945 sample Census of Agriculture, Table 28.

** See text for description.

*Table V.—Distribution of Tractors By Size of Farms, Oklahoma, 1945.**

Acres per Farm	Percent of Farms With Tractors	Number of Tractors Per 100 Farms	Average No. Tractors Per Farm With Tractors
All farms	37	43	1.2
Under 10 acres	2	2	1.0
10-49	5	5	1.0
50-99	15	15	1.0
100-179	39	41	1.0
180-259	58	63	1.1
260-499	75	88	1.2
500-999	89	125	1.4
1000 and over	82	141	1.7

* ***U. S. Census of Agriculture, 1945,*** **Vol. 1, Part 25, Oklahoma, and Farms and Farm Characteristics By Size of Farm.**

water in the home, 75 percent have no telephones, 71 percent lack electricity, 39 percent do not have automobiles, and 26 percent possess no radios.* Most families without these items live on small farms.

Fourth, from the data available it is apparent that the type and organization, and consequently the problems, of small farms differ greatly from the corresponding characteristics of middle-size and large farms. Therefore, in planning programs for agriculture, federal, state, and local administrative officials of public agencies should give consideration to the diverse character of farm and farmers.—*Robert T. McMillan.*

* A recent report from the U. S. D. A. estimates that of the farms in Oklahoma at mid-year of 1947, 48 percent have electricity, 32 percent telephones, and 84 percent radios.

Prices Received by Farmers, Price Indexes, and Indexes of Purchasing Power of Oklahoma Farm Products

(1910-1914=100)

	Prices				Price Indexes				Purchasing Power Indexes[1]			
	1947	1948			1947	1948			1947	1948		
	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	(Dollars)				(Percent)				(Percent)			
Grain					324	222	228	230	124	84	87	88
Wheat (bu.)	2.78	1.99	2.05	2.06	323	231	238	240	123	88	91	92
Corn (bu.)	2.33	1.31	1.30	1.33	358	202	200	205	137	77	77	79
Oats (bu.)	1.17	.80	.85	.89	260	178	189	198	99	68	72	76
Barley (bu.)	1.77	1.19	1.21	1.26	300	202	205	214	115	77	79	82
Rye (bu.)	2.40	1.65	1.75	1.65	279	192	204	192	106	73	78	74
Grain Sorghums (bu.)	2.07	1.09	1.15	1.20	304	160	169	176	116	61	65	67
Cotton and Cottonseed					302	270	268	253	115	103	103	97
Cottonlint (lb.)	.315	.296	.289	.270	279	262	256	239	106	99	98	92
Cottonseed (ton)	99.00	67.00	73.00	73.00	506	342	373	373	193	130	143	143
Miscellaneous Crops					200	164	171	172	76	64	66	66
Potatoes, white (bu.)	2.05	2.00	1.95	1.80	185	180	176	162	71	68	67	62
Potatoes, sweet (bu.)	2.55	2.45	2.50	2.55	207	199	203	207	79	76	78	79
Hay, all loose (ton)	18.20	13.40	13.90	14.70	206	152	158	167	79	58	61	64
Total Crops					307	250	251	242	117	95	96	93
Meat Animals					363	392	385	366	139	149	148	140
Cattle (cwt.)	17.80	20.00	20.00	19.00	369	414	414	393	141	157	159	151
Calves (cwt.)	20.50	22.70	22.80	22.50	343	380	382	377	131	144	146	144
Sheep (cwt.)	7.80	8.80	8.80	8.80	168	189	189	189	64	72	72	72
Lambs (cwt.)	21.00	23.10	22.50	21.50	360	396	386	369	137	151	148	141
Hogs (cwt.)	25.10	24.10	22.20	21.00	357	342	315	298	136	130	121	114

Prices and Indexes, Cont.

	Prices				Price Indexes				Purchasing Power Indexes[1]			
	1947	1948			1947	1948			1947	1948		
	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Dec.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.
	(Dollars)				(Percent)				(Percent)			
Dairy Products					292	258	255	263	111	98	98	101
Milk, wholesale (cwt.)	4.95	5.00	5.05	5.10	256	259	262	264	98	98	100	101
Milk, retail (qt.)	.180	[2]	[2]	[2]	234	[2]	[2]	[2]	89	[2]	[2]	[2]
Butter (lb.)	.810	.700	.690	.680	362	313	308	304	138	119	118	116
Butterfat (lb.)	.790	.580	.570	.600	338	248	244	256	139	94	93	98
Chickens and Eggs					298	264	287	298	114	100	110	114
Chickens (lb.)	.216	.264	.258	.280	230	281	274	298	88	107	105	114
Eggs (doz.)	.576	.460	.520	.530	324	258	292	298	124	98	112	114
Workstock		[2]	[2]	[2]	46	[2]	[2]	[2]	18	[2]	[2]	[2]
Horses (head)	34.00	[2]	[2]	[2]	32	[2]	[2]	[2]	12	[2]	[2]	[2]
Mules (head)	63.00	[2]	[2]	[2]	47	[2]	[2]	[2]	18	[2]	[2]	[2]
Total Livestock and Livestock Products					329	341	340	333	126	130	130	128
All Commodities					314	277	278	269	120	105	107	103

SOURCE: Compiled by Dept. Agr. Econ., Oklahoma A. & M. College, from data supplied by Bureau of Agricultural Economics, U. S. D. A., Oklahoma City, Oklahoma, and Washington, D. C.

For previous years, see Oklahoma Agri. Exp. Sta. Bull. 238, *Oklahoma Farm Price Statistics*, and *Current Farm Economics*, Okla. Exp. Sta. Series 49, Vol. 13, Nos. 1 and 2, Feb.-Apr., 1940. Tables 16-19, and subsequent issues.

[1] The ratio of prices received by farmers to prices paid by farmers for commodities used in living and production.

[2] Data not available.

—*Marguerite Jones.*

Price Indexes in the United States and Oklahoma and Indicators of Changes in Domestic Demand.

Year and Month	PRICE INDEXES Average 1910-14=100				INDICATORS OF CHANGES IN DOMESTIC DEMAND Average 1923-25=100		
	Index of Prices Received by Farmers		Index of Prices Paid by Farmers United States	All-Commodity Index of Wholesale Prices United States	Oklahoma Hog-Corn Price Ratio[2]	Index of Demand Deposits Oklahoma[3]	Index of Factory Payrolls United States[4]
	Oklahoma[1]	United States					
1910	108	102	98	103	14.43		
1911	98	95	101	95	9.17		
1912	96	100	100	101	11.15		
1913	101	101	101	102	11.21		
1914	97	101	100	99	10.55		
1915	100	98	105	102	10.48		
1916	125	118	124	125	10.61		
1917	193	175	149	172	9.52		
1918	226	202	176	192	9.20		
1919	236	213	202	202	11.14		106.2
1920	221	211	201	225	12.55		127.1
1921	109	125	152	142	17.95		82.0
1922	130	132	149	141	13.39		88.0
1923	161	142	152	147	7.44	97.0[5]	111.6
1924	165	143	152	143	7.26	95.8	104.1
1925	164	156	157	151	11.05	106.5	109.7
1926	134	145	155	146	16.44	102.0	113.1
1927	134	139	153	139	14.54	100.5	111.0
1928	151	149	155	141	10.72	100.3	112.3
1929	145	146	153	139	10.65	92.3	119.8
1930	112	126	145	126	11.04	77.4	96.9
1940	92	98	123	114	8.61	92.0[6]	114.5
1941	117	122	130	127	13.77	86.6	167.5
1942	152	157	152	144	14.35	107.4	213.3
1943	172	188	167	150	11.69	162.3	316.0
1944	181	195	176	152	10.56	215.9	320.4
1945	184	202	181	154	11.95	285.3	275.9
1946	226	233	203	175	11.56	335.3	260.6
1947	286	278	246	220	13.34	348.5	323.8
1948 Sept.	286	290	265	247	19.85	357.2	381.7
Oct.	277	277	263	243	18.39	362.8	381.5
Nov.	278	271	261	240	17.08	367.6	----
Dec.	269	268	261	239	15.79	364.2[7]	----

SOURCES: Indexes of Oklahoma prices received by farmers, computed by Dept. Agri. Econ., Okla. Agri. Exp. Sta., Stillwater, Oklahoma. Indexes of U. S. prices received and prices paid by farmers and indexes of U. S. wholesale prices, from *Agricultural Prices*, Bur. of Agri. Econ., U. S. D. A., Washington, D. C. Indexes of demand deposits in Oklahoma, calculated by Dept. Agri. Econ., Okla. Agri. Exp. Sta. from data furnished by Federal Reserve Board, Washington, D. C. Indexes of factory payrolls, from U. S. Department of Labor, Bureau of Statistics, Washington, D. C.

[1] Prices received by Oklahoma farmers for 25 commodities. Revised, 1910-1939, in January, 1940.

[2] These figures indicate the number of bushels of corn that could be purchased with 100 pounds of live hogs at current Oklahoma prices received by farmers.

[3] Demand deposits of Oklahoma member banks of the Federal Reserve System located in places under 15,000 population.

[4] Unadjusted for seasonal variation.

[5] Nine months only. Not available prior to April 1923.

[6] Index numbers based on net demand deposits prior to 1936 and upon gross demand deposits since that date. For a discussion of this index see CURRENT FARM ECONOMICS, Oklahoma Agricultural Experiment Station Series 49, Vol. 13, Nos. 1 and 2. Feb.-Apr. 1940. p. 41.

[7] First half of December only.

—*Marguerite Jones.*

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